

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 JANUARY 1985

Lebanon

Israeli Withdrawal Decision — In further comment on the decision to withdraw in three stages, Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres warned of the danger of a "massacre" following the IDF's departure, noting that this is one reason why Israel has sought to reach an agreement with Lebanon and Syria, Jerusalem radio reported. Meanwhile, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told UN Under Secretary Brian Urquhart that Israel intends to return to the Al-Naqurah talks, which are regarded by Israeli security sources as an official channel for the technical coordination of the IDF's evacuation, according to Jerusalem television. As for the IDF's interim deployment in the Al-Litani River-Al-Nabatiyah area, the Israeli chief of staff told the television that this "will not be an exact line" in terms of IDF activities. The Israeli dailies *HA'ARETZ* and *THE JERUSALEM POST* subsequently confirmed that no permanent installations or roads will be built along the interim line. Meanwhile, the IDF will offer to sell its installations in the Sidon area to UNIFIL or the Lebanese Army, the papers noted. On the timing of the withdrawals, *HA'ARETZ* said the Israelis are planning to complete the first phase by 18 February, the second phase in April, and the return to the international border in July.

In a statement carried by the radio, Prime Minister Rashid Karami urged the Lebanese to avoid "incidents" that may be "exploited" by Israel in order to delay its withdrawal. Karami, who had just met with the UN's Brian Urquhart, also reaffirmed that Lebanon finds "no justification" for any UNIFIL role north of the Al-Litani River, adding that responsibility for security in the Sidon area will fall on the Lebanese Government, which plans to send its Army into the evacuated area.

In other reaction to the Israeli decision, Damascus radio warned that Israel will seek to retain a political foothold in the country as well as a military foothold by arming its "agents." In Cairo, the Egyptian foreign minister stated that the Israeli withdrawal will be "a step along the correct course" if it is "real and comprehensive" rather than "cosmetic," MENA reported.

Security — Two explosions in West Beirut killed 4 people and injured 26 others, Voice of Lebanon radio announced. In another development, French observers began vacating positions in south and West Beirut in response to the recent assassination of two French observers in the southern suburb, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon.

Egypt

Tabah Talks — Cairo radio announced 27 January as the new date for the start of Tabah talks with Israel.

Mubarak Greece Visit — President Husni Mubarak departed 16 January for a 2-day visit to Greece, MENA reported.

Sokolov Visit — Soviet Defense Minister Sergey Sokolov will visit Cairo the end of January for talks on defense issues, according to Beirut Voice of Lebanon radio. The radio speculated that Egyptian officials will ask Sokolov to resume Soviet "military aid." Monitored Egyptian and Soviet media have not mentioned any such visit.

Iraq

The secretary of the Kurdistan Revolutionary Party's Central Committee was stripped of his party membership, the London Arabic newspaper *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* reported from Baghdad. A party statement gave no reasons for the "final expulsion," which followed last week's emergency party conference.

Afghanistan

A Foreign Ministry spokesman, cited by Kabul radio, denied Pakistan's claims that DRA planes bombed Chitral areas on 7 and 8 January. In turn, describing them as "false and mischievous," a Pakistan Foreign Ministry spokesman dismissed DRA charges that border militia fired on Chamkani and Bangash residents on 10 January, according to Karachi radio.

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
CONTENTS****South Asia**

Vol VIII No 011

16 January 1985

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i**AFGHANISTAN**

Karmal Greet New Leader of Pakistan's NDP	C 1
Dost Outlines DRA's Foreign Policy Principles	C 1
AFP: 'Resistance' Sources on Fighting in Paktia	C 2
Rebels 'Crushed' in Recent Security Operations	C 2
'Criminal' Rebel Bands Surrender to Authorities	C 3
BAKHTAR Reports Expansion of Local TV Stations	C 3

BANGLADESH

Election Commissioner Announces 6 Apr Balloting	D 1
Ershad Dissolves Council of Ministers	D 1
Opposition Resolution on Free, Fair Elections [Dehli]	D 1
Special Martial Law Courts Cease Trying Cases	D 1
Indian Envoy Summoned on Border Fences Issue	D 1
British Under Secretary Renton Departs 11 Jan	D 2

INDIA

Gandhi Discusses Nonaligned Movement, West Asia	E 1
Pakistani Encroachment at Siachen Glacier Foiled	E 1
Pakistani, Indian Casualties [AFP]	E 1
Envoy Discusses Relations With Gromyko	E 1
Nuclear Board Chairman on Reactor Construction	E 1
Engineers Plug Nuclear Reactor Unit Leak	E 1

PAKISTAN

Zia Opens Steel Plant, Discusses Election	F 1
Afghan Charges of 9 Jan Militia Firing Denied	F 1
Afghan Mujahidin Launch Attacks in Panjsher	F 1

OTHER COUNTRIES**SRI LANKA**

Athulathmudali Rejects Foreign Guidance	G 1
Army Raids Terrorist Hideout: 15 Killed	G 1

IRAN

Khamene'i Meets Velayati, Housing Minister	I 1
USSR Envoy Briefs Velayati on Geneva Talks	I 1
Majlis Speaker Meets Feda'in-e Islam Members	I 1
UN Inspection of POW Conditions Welcomed	I 1
ICRC POW Report Grist for Western Propaganda	I 2
Iraqi 'Torture Center' Designed To Deter Deserters	I 3
Majlis Approves Bill Regulating Private Sector	I 3
Deputy Foreign Minister Meets Libya's Al-Turayki	I 3
Departs Libya for Algiers	I 3
YAR Envoy Presents Message to Basharati	I 4

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,973	I 4
Iraq Executes 67 Muslims; Army Desertions Continue	I 4
Members of Outlawed Kurdish Party Surrender	I 4
Counterrevolutionary Leader Hanged at Evin Prison	I 4
Supervisor Named to Endowment Organization	I 5
Uranium To Be Used For 'Peaceful Purposes'	I 5
Clandestine Supports Esfahan Steel Workers <i>[National Voice of Iran]</i>	I 5

Karmal Greet New Leader of Pakistan's NDP

*LD152106 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
15 Jan 85*

[Text] Abdul Wali Khan, national leader of the Pushtuns, was recently appointed chairman of the National Democratic Party [of Pakistan] by the party's elective congress. His election as chairman of the National Democratic Party [NDP] is regarded as a major and important step for strengthening the democratic movement in Pakistan.

The PDPA and the people of Afghanistan welcome with much pleasure the election of Wali Khan as chairman of the NDP.

Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, has sent the following congratulatory telegram on the occasion of Wali Khan's election as chairman of the NDP:

Dear friend and brother Wali Khan: We in Afghanistan have heard with much pleasure the news of your election as the chairman of the NDP.

On behalf of the PDPA, the revolutionary people of new Afghanistan, and myself, I send my best congratulations and heartfelt wishes on this occasion.

The PDPA and the free and heroic Afghan people appreciate your active life, full of struggle for liberation. Together with your honorable father, Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, the great leader of the Pushtuns, and as an outstanding national and progressive personality, and as chairman of the National People's Party, you have devoted your life to attaining peace and friendship between the people of our region, to enhancing the national and social conscience and tribal unity, to the unity and cohesion of all national, democratic and progressive forces for independence, democracy and progress, to the struggle against British colonialism and imperialism, and against national and social oppression, against reaction and U.S. imperialism and Chinese hegemonism.

We always remember the difficult struggle to which all your conscientious life has been devoted. You have seen the jails of imperialism and the regimes of terror and military suppression and have suffered many difficulties and pains as well.

The PDPA, all social organizations, the National Fatherland Front, all patriots of our homeland, the free-born Afghan people and myself, highly assess and appreciate your support for the April revolution, particularly its new development stage, which has been registered in the history of the national emancipation of Afghans as a major historic point.

We in revolutionary Afghanistan have special and unbreakable interest in the destiny of our brothers on the basis of the firm and profound national historic ties that exist between our people.

We believe that your election to the NDP leadership will bring further strengthening of the unity and cohesion of all national, progressive, and democratic forces as well as the liberating movement of antireaction, antinational and social oppression,

antidespotism, anticolonialism and imperialism; and will effectively assist the restoration of freedom and democracy.

Your stand for the restoration of peace, security, freedom, democracy, and progress in the region, fully conforms with the objectives of the national and democratic revolution of Afghanistan.

It is an undeniable fact that the interference and aggressive provocations of imperialism, reaction, and hegemonism and the undeclared war against revolutionary, independent and non-aligned Afghanistan, only serve the evil objectives of U.S. imperialism and the reactionary regressive forces.

I point out again that Afghanistan has always stood for, and will continue to stand for, peace and friendship between the people of our region — including the people of Pakistan. We seriously desire the solution of issues around the DRA through direct talks with Pakistan on the basis of the DRA Government proposals dated 1980 and 1981, on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence, removal of tension in the region, the principle of nonaggression, and noninterference in each others' internal affairs.

This peaceful policy of the party and our revolutionary government has been chosen on the basis of rational thought, realistic vision, and political logic.

The revolution of the brave and free-born people of Afghanistan will forge ahead and is invincible.

Again I express my best wishes, fraternal and sincere greetings with the hope for your further victories.

[Signed] Your brother, Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee.

Dost Outlines DRA's Foreign Policy Principles

*LD152209 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT
15 Jan 85*

[Text] DRA Minister of Foreign Affairs Shah Muhammad Dost granted the following interview to APN in Kabul on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the PDPA's founding:

In its first political policy, published in 1966, the PDPA announced that its foreign policy was based on work for lasting peace and the prevention of another world war. After the victory of the April revolution in 1978, when the PDPA was transformed into a ruling party, it renewed its pledge and loyalty to the foreign policy principles of the party and the DRA Government.

This fact was formulated within the framework of the action program approved in 1982, and in the Basic Principles of the DRA, Afghanistan's temporary constitution.

The foreign policy of the PDPA and the Afghan state rests on broad international cooperation and the freedom, national sovereignty, and territorial integrity of countries. In this way we are fully pledged to the principles of nonalignment and the UN

Charter. We wish to keep and strengthen our friendly relations with states and peoples on the basis of noninterference in each others' internal affairs and mutual respect. Afghanistan, which is a founder and an active member of the Nonaligned Movement, supports all peoples in their struggle against colonialism, neocolonialism, imperialism, Zionism, racism, and apartheid for national and social development, for democracy and progress, and for the construction of a new international economic and information order. We are accomplishing our task as far as we can toward strengthening peace, particularly in Asia.

We are witness to the fact that imperialist forces are trying to build and consolidate their military bases in the heart of Asia. For this purpose the militarization of Pakistan has been very speedily advanced and that country's military machine is being equipped with very modern arms, and as a first step with offensive weapons. These military preparations pose a danger to the people of Asia. Under present conditions the PDPA and the DRA Government are engaged in applying all necessary measures aimed at putting an end to the conspiracies of reactionary forces and imperialism who have begun an undeclared war against the DRA. We only want to protect the rights of our people for peace and independent growth. Our major aim is peace and security in Asia.

I would like to recall here the well-known proposals of 14 May, 1980 and 24 August, 1981. These proposals contain initiatives for the normalization of relations between Afghanistan and its neighbors, that is, Pakistan and Iran. We also believe these proposals are very constructive and acceptable for achieving a political solution.

We consider the talks with Pakistan, being conducted through a representative of the UN secretary general, as positive. Efforts to this end should be continued. A big step toward a political solution of the situation around Afghanistan would be direct talks with Pakistan and Iran, the foundation of which should be laid in the Geneva talks. We believe that if Iran and Pakistan express a sincere wish for a political solution, the forthcoming round of talks in February 1985, will bring positive results.

We profoundly believe in the firmness of Afghanistan's stand in international arena. At present, Afghanistan has diplomatic relations with 80 countries. The PDPA has established links with 103 political parties, progressive movements and organizations.

Afghanistan is a member of 13 UN suborganizations. Our country is an active member of the Nonaligned Movement and enjoys the support and understanding of its majority members.

We thank all our friends for their international solidarity with our revolution and for their support for the struggle of the people of Afghanistan for a bright future.

AFP: 'Resistance' Sources on Fighting in Paktia
HK120128 Hong Kong AFP in English 1534 GMT
 11 Jan 85

[Text] Islamabad, Jan 11 (AFP) — Anti-communist forces launched a counter-offensive this week to try to stop Soviet troops

from winning control of Afghanistan's vital border area with Pakistan in Paktia Province, resistance sources said.

Resistance mujahidin use the area to move in and out of Afghanistan from their bases in the neighbouring Pakistani Northwest Frontier Province.

According to reports in Peshawar from the two most active resistance groups in the region — the Moslem fundamentalist Hezb-e Eslami and the moderate Mahaz — the Soviets are trying to considerably strengthen the Afghan Army positions near the border.

"If we lose control of this region, the Mangal tribes who live there will treat with Kabul and one of our main access routes into Pakistan will be closed," a Hezb-e Eslami official said.

The reports from Peshawar said that last Tuesday, troops transported by helicopter from Kabul and Gardeyz, the Paktia capital, were dropped around the garrison at Chamkani to knock out surrounding mujahidin hill positions.

About 50 Soviet and Afghan soldiers were killed or wounded before retreating to the garrison, the mujahidin said.

On Wednesday, the mujahidin said they destroyed an arms depot at the garrison and shelled it heavily again on Thursday.

The Soviet-Afghan forces shelled resistance positions for a long time Thursday, but "without success", the Hezb-e Eslami official said.

On Monday, Kabul accused Pakistan of sending about 50 militia-men into the Chamkani area to attack Afghan soldiers.

Islamabad denied the accusation.

Afghan deserters arriving in Pakistan said the Soviets had massed several thousand men at Gardeyz, ready to be sent to Chamkani to clean up mujahidin positions.

Since the onset of winter, Western diplomats here have echoed resistance reports from Peshawar saying the Soviets had reinforced their troops in the border provinces to try to block mujahidin routes in and out of Afghanistan.

Rebels 'Crushed' in Recent Security Operations
LD121525 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT
 12 Jan 85

[Text] A source of the security forces has reported to BAKHTAR that as a result of operations carried out recently by the security forces in Kabul, Samangan, Paktia and Ghazni Provinces, 93 rebels were crushed and assorted weapons including recoilless guns, rocket launchers, mortars, an arms depot and 27 trenches have been destroyed.

'Criminal' Rebel Bands Surrender to Authorities

*LD132207 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT
13 Jan 85*

[Text] A number of our compatriots who, due to the hostile propaganda of the murderous bands, had joined them for a time, and then realizing the truth and lofty aims of revolution and the PDPA, have now surrendered themselves to the authorities of our revolutionary state.

Thus a seven-man group belonging to the criminal band of Gulbuddin, which was active for some time in Minajoy village, Qarah Bagh District, along with its leader Abdul Jalil came over to the security authorities bringing seven Egyptian and Chinese Kalashnikovs and one rocket launcher. The group promised to stand in the ranks of the defense of revolution and to fight to the end to eliminate the last vestiges of the rebels.

According to another report another 21-men group led by Zabihullah, belonging to the so called Eslami band, surrendered to the security forces of Badghis Province, bringing 1 rocket launcher, a heavy machinegun and 20 weapons.

Another 25-men band headed by Muhammad Akbar, son of Malham, surrendered to the security forces in Farah Province,

bringing 25 assorted weapons. The group promised to fight to the death in defending the motherland and in constructing a peaceful life for our compatriots.

BAKHTAR Reports Expansion of Local TV Stations

*LD151528 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0433 GMT
15 Jan 85*

[Text] Kabul, January 13, (BAKHTAR) — Four new television stations will soon start functioning in Afghanistan. This was stated by the deputy minister of communications, Muhammad Zarin Karimzada, in an interview to daily *ANIS*. The new stations will be established in Ghazni, Paktia, Farah and Badakhshan Provinces.

It may be recalled that in the past few months local TV stations began operating in Qandahar, Herat and Nangarhar Provinces.

These local TV stations have access to space satellites and can record and directly broadcast programmes through their own special stations.

Election Commissioner Announces 6 Apr Balloting*BK151416 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1300 GMT
15 Jan 85*

[15 January address to nation by Bangladesh Chief Election Commissioner Justice A.K.M. Nurul Islam — live or recorded]

[Text] Dear countrymen, peace be upon you. You are all aware of the situation under which the parliamentary election schedule announced on 3 October was postponed. Following this, on 15 December in his address to the nation, the president and chief martial law administrator announced the decision to hold parliamentary elections in April. In this context, I am now announcing the schedule for the coming parliamentary elections.

According to this schedule, the date for filing nomination papers is Sunday, 24 February of this year. The date for scrutiny of the nomination papers is Monday, 25 February. The last date for withdrawal of candidacy is Monday, 4 March. The election will be held on Saturday, 6 April. Let me repeat: The date for filing nomination papers is Sunday, 24 February of this year. The date for the scrutiny of the nomination papers is Monday, 25 February. The last date for withdrawal of candidacy is Monday, 4 March. And the election will be held on Saturday, 6 April.

Dear countrymen: The importance of an election in the life of the nation and the country is well known. A general election is a democratic process in a democratic country by which overall public opinion is reflected. It is only through an election that the people meaningfully associate themselves with the government and the administration.

An election not only gives the successful candidates the responsibility to rule as the representatives of the people, it also creates an opportunity for the unsuccessful candidates to play their appropriate role by identifying their just strength. In politics, everyone has a role to play irrespective of party affiliation or difference of views.

In this connection, I especially wish to mention that only the holding of a fair and free election can bring real democracy to the people and fulfill their long cherished hopes and aspirations.

With this view in mind, I also want to mention that the election commission is fully resolved to hold a fair, free and impartial election.

The overall success of an immense and vast task such as holding a general election depends entirely on the full cooperation of all related groups.

Based on my past experience, I particularly hope to seek unrestrained cooperation from the radio, television, newspapers, movies, and other national mass media. I firmly believe that their role is particularly helpful to us in carrying out our responsibility.

Dear countrymen, come. With our joint cooperation, we will make the forthcoming parliamentary election an overall grand and total success. Let the merciful God almighty come to our aid in carrying on this auspicious and important task. Goodbye. Long live Bangladesh.

Ershad Dissolves Council of Ministers*BK151441 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1433 GMT
15 Jan 85*

[Text] The president and chief martial law administrator, Lieutenant General Hussain Mohammad Ershad, has dissolved the Council of Ministers. This has come into effect immediately.

The dissolution of the Council of Ministers was in line with President Ershad's promise on 15 December to hold a free and fair parliamentary election in April this year.

Opposition Resolution on Free, Fair Elections*BK151245 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT
15 Jan 85*

[Text] In Bangladesh, the Awami League-led 15 party alliance has urged the government to accept the preconditions set by the alliance to create a conducive atmosphere for holding free and fair elections.

In a resolution adopted at a meeting in Dhaka, the alliance said it cannot participate in any election which is not free and fair.

Special Martial Law Courts Cease Trying Cases*BK151724 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT
15 Jan 85*

[Text] All special martial law courts will cease the trial and dispose of case from tomorrow. A government handout issued in Dhaka today says orders have already been given for transfer of cases pending in these courts to various criminal courts for trial and disposals in the usual manner in accordance with the provisions of the court of criminal procedure.

The judgment on the cases so transferred will be appealable in the normal way.

The government has restored the fundamental rights and enlarged the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. The restoration and enlargement have been made by order called the Constitution Partial Revival Second Order 1985 promulgated today.

Indian Envoy Summoned on Border Fences Issue*BK151521 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1437 GMT
15 Jan 85*

[Text] Bangladesh has firmly reiterated that the erection of barbed wire fences along the zero line of the border is similar to violating a nation's sovereignty and territorial integrity. In Dhaka today a spokesman said that erecting the barbed wire fences within 150 yards along the zero line is in violation of the joint Bangladesh-India border guidelines, and if done beyond 150 yards, would be inconsistent with the objectives of the good-neighborly relations between the two countries.

The spokesman was commenting on a recent statement by the Indian prime minister in which he said that his government would

proceed with the proposed erection of the barbed wire fences along the border.

The spokesman said that the Indian high commissioner in Bangladesh was summoned to the Foreign Office and requested to convey Bangladesh's viewpoint to the Indian authorities.

Bangladesh hopes that nothing will be done contrary to the commitments of both countries to improve the friendly and good-neighborly relations between them.

British Under Secretary Renton Departs 11 Jan

*BK120319 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT
12 Jan 85*

[Text] The British parliamentary under secretary of state for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Mr Timothy Renton, left Dhaka last night after the 4-day visit to Bangladesh. During his stay, Mr Renton had talks with officials on problems related to emigration into Britain by dependents of Bangladesh nationals residing in the United Kingdom. Mr Renton also visited two villages near Sylhet town.

Gandhi Discusses Nonaligned Movement, West Asia*BK141102 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 15 Jan 85*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has said a full-length program for the Nonaligned Movement is being chalked out. In an interview with the UNITED NEWS OF INDIA at Salon in Uttar Pradesh, Mr Gandhi, who is the chairperson of the Nonaligned Movement, said as soon as the program is ready he would take an initiative on West Asia crisis.

Mr Gandhi was asked whether his party's massive majority in Parliament would make his government arbitrary and unresponsive. The prime minister said our government would not be (?smug).

Pakistani Encroachment at Siachen Glacier Foiled*BK160309 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0247 GMT 16 Jan 85*

[Text] Indian troops have foiled several attempts made by the Pakistani troops to encroach on Indian territory of Siachen Glacier area in Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir. This was disclosed to newsmen by the general officer commanding in chief, Northern Command, Lieutenant General M.L. Chhibber, in Jammu yesterday. He said the attempts were made in the past 6 months but they were all foiled by our troops. The territory continues to be fully under Indian control.

Replying to another question, Lt Gen Chhibber said the situation in other areas along the line of actual control in Jammu and Kashmir is normal.

Pakistani, Indian Casualties*HK160738 Hong Kong AFP in English 0719 GMT 16 Jan 85*

[Text] New Delhi, Jan 16 (AFP) — Indian border troops have killed more than 50 Pakistani soldiers and suffered at least 30 deaths in fighting for control of the Saichin Glacial area in the Ladakh region of Kashmir over the past six months, the Indian military commander of the area said today.

"Indian troops have foiled all the attempts of Pakistan in the area and the territory continued to be fully under Indian control," the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA news agency quoted Lieutenant General M. L. Chhibber as telling newsmen in Srinagar, Kashmir's capital.

PTI did not say when the casualties occurred, but quoted the army commander as saying that his troops had thwarted "repeated attempts" by Pakistani troops over the past six months.

A major clash was reported in the area last June 11-12, but neither side gave details of casualties at the time.

Lt Gen Chhibber said that "more than 50 Pakistani troops were killed and many injured" following a violation of the international border. At least 30 Indian soldiers were killed, he reportedly added.

Lt Gen Chhibber said his forces were keeping a close watch on Pakistani troops along the border.

The Indian Defence Ministry was not immediately available for comment. But informed sources noted that said that military commanders did not talk to the press on such sensitive issues without first obtaining clearance from the ministry.

The glacier is the longest river of ice outside the polar region.

Pakistan has fought two wars over control of Kashmir in 1947 and 1971.

Envoy Discusses Relations With Gromyko*BK160336 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 16 Jan 85*

[Text] The Soviet Union has sought India's cooperation in uniting the efforts of all peace-loving states, including the Nonaligned Movement, in the struggle for international peace and security. These concerns emerged at a meeting between the Soviet foreign minister, Mr Gromyko, and the Indian ambassador to the USSR, Professor Nurul Hasan, in Moscow yesterday. Both the leaders discussed bilateral relations and matters of mutual interest.

Nuclear Board Chairman on Reactor Construction*BK131429 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 13 Jan 85*

[Text] The chairman of the Nuclear Power Board, Dr M.R. Srinivasan, has said that the country has built up a good infrastructure of skilled manpower and technology for rapid development of nuclear power. Speaking at a function in Bombay he said the country proposes to build reactors of 235 megawatts, 2 each at Narora and Kakrapar. Dr Srinivasan said more than 10 reactors of 500 megawatts each will come up in the country during the next 10 years.

Engineers Plug Nuclear Reactor Unit Leak*BK160334 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 16 Jan 85*

[Text] The engineers of the Department of Atomic Energy have finally plugged a leak in Unit 1 of the Rajasthan atomic power station, achieving a major breakthrough in reactor maintenance technology. The chairman of the Nuclear Power Board, Dr N.R. Srinivasan, told PTI that the engineers had already started trial commissioning of the reactor unit and it will be fully commissioned soon.

The Canadian-designed reactor unit had been shut down in January 1982 due to the leak. Canada refused to share the knowhow to maintain the reactor on the ground that India had not signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Dr Srinivasan said the entire nuclear world was doubtful whether India could plug the leak as it involved very highly sophisticated technology.

Zia Opens Steel Plant, Discusses Election

*BK151648 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
15 Jan 85*

[Excerpts] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq today formally inaugurated Pakistan Steel at Bin Qasim near Karachi, the biggest industrial project in the country. He described the project as the biggest New Year's gift for the nation and said that the project will prove a pillar for Pakistan's industrial development and will lead the country to a new era of prosperity.

The president thanked the Soviet Union for material and technical assistance for the completion of Pakistan Steel. The Soviet Union has provided a soft loan of 5,830 million rupees for the project. The president reaffirmed that Pakistan, like the Soviet Union, desires the continuation of this bilateral economic cooperation on the basis of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and of noninterference in each other's internal affairs. The president announced the granting of honorary Pakistani citizenship to senior Soviet technician A. Polo Marinko, who has been working for Pakistan Steel for the last 9 years.

Talking to newsmen later, the president also announced a grant of 500 rupees and an annual promotion for all employees of Pakistan Steel to mark the completion of this gigantic project.

On the future Federal Advisory Council, the president said that it will not only enjoy more rights but it will also be a legislative body. He said that the 1973 Constitution has not been abrogated, but suspended, and it will be restored at an appropriate proper time after making necessary amendments before the general elections. The president said that some election-related orders that have been issued are in accordance with the Constitution, and they are aimed at fully implementing his 12 August 1983 program. The president said that his aim is to set up exemplary bodies and an administrative system based on Islamic

tenets. He appealed to the people to elect candidates keeping in view their character and their love for Islam and country. He said that the provincial governors are entitled to send recommendations to him to waive the restrictions on persons disqualified from running in the elections. The president has now returned to Rawalpindi.

Afghan Charges of 9 Jan Militia Firing Denied

*BK151742 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT
15 Jan 85*

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman has described as false and mischievous the charge leveled by the Kabul authorities that on the 9th of this month Pakistani border militia personnel were in the Patan area and, the following day, they fired on the residents of Chamkani and Bangash in Paktia Province, which resulted in casualties to civilians and military personnel. A representative of the Afghan Embassy, to whom Pakistan's denial was conveyed this afternoon, was informed that these charges were not new. The Kabul authorities persisted in concocting these fabrications in a clumsy attempt to hoodwink international public opinion and shift the blame on Pakistan for events within Afghanistan.

Afghan Mujahidin Launch Attacks in Panjsher

*BK151109 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT
15 Jan 85*

[Text] Afghan mujahidin are reported to have shot down a Soviet helicopter and knocked out two tanks besides damaging six Army personnel carriers in the Panjsher valley where Soviet-Karmal troops have been locked in military operations against them for the last 3 weeks. Other reports speak of rocket attack by mujahidin on the (?Qargah) cantonment and another Army center 1 km south of the presidential palace in Kabul.

SRI LANKA

Athulathmudali Rejects Foreign Guidance

*BK151229 Colombo International Service in English
1030 GMT 15 Jan 85*

[Excerpt] National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali made it clear yesterday that Sri Lanka does not need any foreign guidance or assistance in finding solution to the ethnic problem in the country. He said that Sri Lanka had a full strength and determination to solve this crisis.

Addressing the final day ceremony of the 99th mahapola [religious ceremony] in Karunegala last night, Minister Athulathmudali also pointed out that terrorism was an internal problem of Sri Lanka. He said that South Indian politicians who supported the terrorists had suffered defeats in the recent general election. This is a clear indication that the Indian people were of the view that solutions to this problem should be found by Sri Lanka itself.

Mr Athulathmudali said that it was the aim of the government to wipe out terrorism within the current year. He pledged that the terrorists would never be allowed to grab an inch of land from the country.

The minister also said that the aim of the Pradhakaran group had been to massacre 5,000 Sinhalese. However, he said, TULF leader Amirthalangam did not describe the terrorists attack on

the Kent farm and the Dollar farm as an attack on the ordinary people. Their attacks on Kokkilai and Nayaru clearly indicated that they were attacking the ordinary citizens. Another aim of the terrorists was to ensure a government troops withdrawal from the north before the 31st of last month.

The minister said that instead of setting up a separate state of Eelam yesterday, the terrorists blasted several bridges in the northern peninsula, causing inconvenience to their own population. The government had tightened security arrangements in the north and the state intelligence service had been converted to an effective organization.

Mr Athulathmudali disclosed that the government would not hesitate to reward the informants who gave information for the raid of a terrorist base at Achchuveli, where the local leader of the Pradhakaran group was killed.

Army Raids Terrorist Hideout; 15 Killed

*BK161048 Colombo International Service in English
1030 GMT 16 Jan 85*

[Text] The Army raided a terrorist hideout at Mulliyavalia, 7 miles from Mullaitivu town, early this morning. There was an exchange of fire, and as a result 15 terrorists, including 2 females, were killed. According to the Ministry of State, a soldier who received gunshot injuries died later. The bodies are kept at the Mullaitivu hospital.

Khamene'i Meets Velayati, Housing Minister*LD151440 Tehran IRNA in English 1329 GMT 15 Jan 85*

[Text] Tehran, Jan 15 IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i met separately with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and the minister of Housing and Urban Development, Serajuddin Kazeruni Monday.

Velayati reported the latest regional and global political developments to the president, while Kazeruni, accompanied by his deputies, reported on the new structure of his ministry and the general housing situation in the country.

President Khamene'i expressed his general agreement with the current policies of the ministry and spoke about ways to make housing construction more people-oriented.

He said bureaucracy contradicts Iran's national interests and Islamic principles and that the ministry should clear the way of housing construction from obstacles.

USSR Envoy Briefs Velayati on Geneva Talks*LD161115 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Jan 85*

[Text] This morning the Soviet ambassador met with Minister of Foreign Affairs Velayati and discussed with him issues concerning international affairs and bilateral relations. In this meeting, the Soviet ambassador submitted a report, on behalf of the Soviet leaders, to the minister. The report concerns the recent discussions in Geneva about controlling and reducing weapons.

Mr Velayati, referring to these discussions, said: Such discussions for controlling and reducing dangerous weapons are naturally of interest to other countries as well. This is because in a nuclear war all humanity will be harmed. Therefore any agreement on the control or reduction or a freeze on the production and testing of such weapons will be welcomed by us.

Majlis Speaker Meets Feda'in-e Islam Members*LD160952 Tehran IRNA in English 0740 GMT 16 Jan 85*

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 16, IRNA — In a meeting with a group of visiting members of Feda'in-e Islam here Tuesday, Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani paid tribute to founders of the group, Navab Safavi, and Vahedi and others as forerunners of a first Islamic militant movement during the toppled shah's time who were bold enough to meet head-on the un-Islamic practice deliberately introduced and fostered in Iran for a period of more than 50 years of monarchy.

Rafsanjani sharply criticized the lay opposition and other influentials in those days for having conducted a campaign against the religiously-minded opposition in Iran and for upholding policies and practices detrimental to the good of the nation.

The Majlis speaker also paid tribute to theologian and political activist Ayatollah Kashani as another character inspired by the aspirations of the Feda'in-e Islam. He said the founders of the

movement had demanded nothing extraordinary from the ruling government other than respect for at least certain basic principles of Islam by the government and statesmen including observance of the "Hijab" which propositioned he said did not please the statesmen and the so-called lay-intellectuals of the day "since the wives and girls of many of them would not observe the Hijab."

Rafsanjani said that theological schools throughout the country are highly indebted to the founders of the movement since they had inspired theologians and theological students with the idea of an active disobedience against the un-Islamic social norms in Iran. He also paid tribute to them as a people who had laid the first corner stone of the Islamic Revolution in Iran and called on members of the movement to "keep ever lit the candle kindled by the fedayeen of Islam."

A group of five founder members of the Islamic militant movement "Feda'in-e Islam" were executed on January 11, 1957.

UN Inspection of POW Conditions Welcomed*LD151901 Tehran IRNA in English 1752 GMT 15 Jan 85*

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 15, IRNA — Hoseyn Kazempur-Ardabili, Iran's deputy foreign minister for economic and international affairs today in a press conference expressed thanks to the United Nations for dispatching a delegation to Iraq in order to look into the conditions of Iranian POWs.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran welcomes the dispatch of this delegation to Iran and Iraq", he said. "We hope that these investigations will be realistic and sincere and that a complete and accurate report will come out of them about the conditions of POWs in both countries", the deputy foreign minister said.

Ardabili listed several cases of blatant violations of the Geneva conventions by the Iraqi regime on the treatment of Iranian prisoners of war, and requested the United Nations special investigating team to look into them.

There had been at least three cases of murder of Iranian POWs according to the International Red Cross reports, he said.

In one case, three Iranian prisoners were martyred and about 80 were wounded in a clash with Iraqi guards at the Mosul-2 camp on November 19, 1982.

At the Mosul-1 camp in July 1982, two POWs were martyred and 12 wounded by guards, and three POWs were martyred in other camps at various dates.

He added that there had also been mysterious reports from Iraq on the death of prisoners caused by skull fractures and broken limbs.

The deputy minister said Iranian prisoners listed as wounded in Iraq were considerably fewer in number compared to the number of Iraqi wounded prisoners in Iran, suggesting mass murders of wounded Iranians in the hands of the Iraqi forces.

"A high-ranking Red Cross official commented to an Iranian official that this is a strange war in which there are so many wounded prisoners on one side and so little on the other," he said.

He said an Iranian delegation had met the special U.N. team commissioned to investigate the condition of POWs in Iran and Iraq in Geneva last week and expressed its concern over numerous Iraqi violations against Iranian prisoners.

The three-man U.N. team — two law professors from Norway and Austria and a general from Venezuela — are currently in Iraq on a fact-finding mission.

A list of 20,000 missing Iranian militarymen and civilians had also been handed to the U.N. delegation, Ardabili said.

"The issue of the missing (Iranians) is serious, and it's an outright violation of international laws," he said.

Ardabili, who made frequent references to previously unpublished IRC reports from Iraq, said about 1,500 of the 7,800 Iranians being held in Iraq are civilians taken captive from Iranian border Provinces of Khuzestan and Kordestan.

There are more than 50,000 Iraqi prisoners of war in Iran, none of them civilians.

Ardabili said from the 427 Iranian prisoners repatriated to Iran, 235 of them have been civilians, including four women medical relief workers.

"Despite the laws of the Geneva Convention, 40 doctors and relief workers are still held captive in Iraq."

He said the International Red Cross reports stated that hundreds of Iranian prisoners were denied contact with its delegates and many prisoners had been forced to speak on Iraqi radio and television without their names being listed by the IRC.

Another matter of concern has been the whereabouts and physical condition of the former Iranian Oil minister, Mohammad Javad Tondguyan, and his aides who were taken captive near Abadan in the south, early in the war, Abdabili added. None have been visited by the Red Cross, he said.

The Iranian official stressed that recent actions and statements by the IRC were "an indication of the fact that this organization had not observed the principle of impartiality."

"It (IRC) has turned our hopes into despair."

However, he said, "we have maintained our hopes that the missions being sent by the U.N. secretary general would prepare objective reports."

Previous U.N. reports on attacks on Iranian civilian quarters and the use of chemical weapons against Iranian soldiers in the war had been "positive" Ardabili added.

ICRC POW Report Grist for Western Propaganda

LD151503 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1105 GMT
15 Jan 85

[Political commentary: "Demonstrating Might of Islamic Army and Exposing Imperialist Propaganda"]

[Text] Over the past 2 days we have witnessed the success of the swift-winged airmen of the Islamic Republic Air Force in their extraterritorial missions when they penetrated deep into Iraqi territory, first by 45 km and the second time by 80 km.

These dear ones, having inflicted heavy losses and casualties on the enemy concentrations, returned safely to their bases.

[Words indistinct] what is happening in Khuzestan and other regions is further confirmation of the naivete of the criminals ruling over Iraq, all of which stems from the fact that they consider the relation of imperialist propaganda to their own objectives as a sign of the weakness of the Islamic forces on this side of the battlefronts.

Sadly, the crushing, mighty blows dealt to the contaminated Iraqi body by the Islamic combatants in the course of this imposed war have failed to bring them to their senses and to clear their confused minds of groundless illusions. Saddam is unaware that his imperialist and Zionist masters have been using him as a tool to ward off calamity so that they may prolong even for a few days their shameful rule over Jerusalem.

Saddam's masters, controlling all types of broadcasting media as well as other major media throughout the world, have always glossed over the weakness of faith and morale of the Ba'athist-Zionist forces through the propaganda weapon and pens which are in the service of oppressors. Indeed, these masters continue to give the impression to world public opinion that they are so powerful that such defeats as the Fath al-Mobin operations and the liberation of Khorramshahr, Kheybar, and Meymak sound unbelievable to the public.

Amid such propaganda measures, which point to the collaboration between the imperialist media directors and the criminals ruling occupied Palestine and Iraq, one may cite their clamor about the Iraqi POW camp in Iran. Now that the Islamic Republic of Iran, in all sincerity, has called on the UN secretary-general to send a mission made up of international experts and lawyers on a fact-finding tour to study the condition of the Iraqi and Iranian POW's, the same infamous media have given wide coverage in their news bulletins and commentaries to the report made by the International Red Cross Committee [ICRC] director about the so-called mistreatment of the Iraqi POW's in Iran. The same media is trying to (?boost) the mission's report on the condition of the POW's. We are dealing with a fact: Each time an independent mission, representing international communities, demands to be allowed to study the violation of accepted laws concerning the war and POW's, the world has taken note of the fact. Nevertheless, this occurs when independent UN missions which have visited the two countries to see whether they adhere to international law have confessed that it is Iraq which is committing crimes.

In a statement issued on this point, the Islamic Republic Foreign Ministry has announced: It is surprising that the ICRC, a committee with long years of experience, which is in a better position than any other organization to maintain calm and impartiality during the visit made by the UN mission, should resort to creating such a political, propaganda climate. Another part of the statement addresses itself to the UN secretary general's mission: The Foreign Ministry hopes that the mission, ignoring such an atmosphere and political propaganda, will carry on with its task and, having carefully delved into the status of the Iranian POW's in Iraq and studied the numerous and well-documented complaints made by the Islamic Republic of Iran, will come up with practical proposals, thus taking an important step toward improving the situation of the said POW's and removing the anxiety felt by their eminent families. This would be considered a humanitarian act.

As for what we say about the situation on the battlefronts of this imposed war, indeed it does not tally with what is uttered by propaganda media. What we say is indeed precisely what has often been said by our self-sacrificing dear ones at the battlefronts of the imposed war. It is what is voiced by the multitude of people currently heading toward the battlefronts. Indeed, the final word — battle until victory is achieved and the calamity eliminated — will be heard through the weapons of our faithful combatants on the battlefronts.

Iraqi 'Torture Center' Designed To Deter Deserters

LD161122 Tehran IRNA in English 1103 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Text] Tehran, Jan 16 IRNA — Iraqi military counter-intelligence has set up a new torture center in the 505th Infantry Brigade stationed at Fariq Mansurieh al-Jabal, to punish military deserters, said informed sources of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq.

The sources further added that the deserters are being tortured in front of other military personnel so that they would never think of deserting.

The widespread defection of the military personnel in the Iraqi armed forces, has prompted the Iraqi regime to form such torture centers.

Majlis Approves Bill Regulating Private Sector

LD151526 Tehran IRNA in English 1349 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Tehran, Jan 15, IRNA — The Majlis today gave its general approval to a bill for regulating private sector activities.

The bill, which would now be discussed in detail in various Majlis committees, is considered an important step towards clarifying the position of the private sector in post-revolutionary Iran and thus organising and attracting more private investment.

Several months ago, the deputies also approved a bill on the activities of the cooperatives.

Before voting today, the Majlis defeated a motion by a number of deputies to postpone final discussion on the bill for six months.

Later in today's session, Culture and Higher Education Minister Dr Iraj Fazel reported on the ministry's activities and the state of affairs in the higher education centres.

He called for a greater share of the budget to meet the growing financial needs of the universities and strengthening their administration. The country is facing a shortage of professors, he said.

In a pre-agenda speech, the Majlis deputy from Jiroft, Kerman Province, stressed that the war with Iraq was the country's most important issue.

Eshaq Jahingiri called on the Supreme Defence Council to face the war in a "serious manner" and overthrow the Iraqi regime.

One of the deputies from Kordestan Province, Abdullah Tateli, said people in Kordestan hoped to see anti-revolutionary rebels in that region would be crushed by the Islamic combatants.

He said the Kurdish people would fight "until their last drop of blood" to defend the Islamic Republic.

Deputy Foreign Minister Meets Libya's Al-Turayki

LD151749 Tehran IRNA in English 1715 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Tripoli, Jan 15, IRNA — Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister in charge of political affairs Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam reviewed the Middle East situation and talked on issues of mutual interest in his meeting with the Libyan secretary general of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison, 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki here today. He also presented the Libyan official a message from Iran's President 'Ali Khamene'i.

In the meeting the Iranian Foreign Ministry official told al-Turayki that the United States is stepping up efforts for imposing conciliatory agreements such as that of the Camp David accord upon Palestine and even upon the entire Arab world.

In response the Libyan official appreciated the message to him from President Khamene'i and said elsewhere in his talks that the airlifting of Jewish Ethiopians to occupied Palestine typified the hostility of the Zionists with Muslims and that it was a disgrace to Muslims and to the Arab world.

Earlier on Monday night the visiting Iranian official met and held talks with two officials of Libya's General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison at his residence here.

Departs Libya for Algiers

LD161151 Tehran IRNA in English 1118 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 16, IRNA — Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam ended his visit to Libya Wednesday and left Tripoli for Algiers.

During his stay in Libya, Sheikh ol-Eslam discussed regional issues as well as the Palestinian question with the Libyan leadership council member Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud Tuesday evening.

Sheikh ol-Eslam also informed the Libyan official of the recent Iraqi air attacks against civilian quarters in the Islamic Republic.

Major Jallud expressed his government's firm support for the Islamic Republic in the Iraqi-imposed war and emphasised on greater cooperation in confronting imperialist and Zionist plots in the region.

The Iranian official is on a tour of the member-countries of the Steadfastness Front against the Zionist regime. After talks in Algiers, he is expected to move on to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

YAR Envoy Presents Message to Besharati

LD151433 Tehran IRNA in English 1321 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 15 IRNA — The charge d'affaires of the Arab Republic of Yemen, 'Ali 'Abdallah al-Razi, Tuesday met Iran's deputy foreign minister, 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, and presented him with a message from North Yemen's acting foreign minister.

Al-Razi thanked Iran for its active participation in the recent meeting of the Organisation of Islamic Conference in Sanaa. He also called for the strengthening of ties between the two countries.

Besharati said Iran seeks to expand its ties with all the Islamic countries, especially with its neighbours and will use all its resources towards that end.

An Iranian parliamentary delegation currently visiting Persian Gulf countries will soon go to North Yemen, Besharati said.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,973

LD151646 Tehran IRNA in English 1637 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 15, IRNA — Five civilians were martyred and 7 wounded in Iraqi long-range artillery attacks on the southern city of Abadan Monday. Five houses were also damaged.

Joint Staff Command Communique Number 1973 issued today said also that artillery exchanges between Iranian and Iraqi forces continued from Piranshahr to Marivan in the northwestern front, being heaviest in the Sardasht area.

Also in the northwest theatre Iranian forces controlled enemy movements and killed or wounded a number of Iraqi troops.

In the western front, the Muslim combatants of Iran deployed defensive tactics and sent patrols into enemy held territory. The combatants also bombarded enemy positions with heavy artillery killing a group of Iraqi soldiers and setting fire to their positions.

In the border area of Bakhtaran, one enemy patrol was destroyed. Meanwhile, the Islamic combatants of Iran paralyzed the activities of one Iraqi engineering unit in an area near Qasr-e Shirin, and one enemy column was repelled with casualties in an area near Halaleh.

In artillery duels in the southern front, Iranian combatants silenced enemy guns and interrupted and paralyzed their activities.

Heaviest exchanges were reported in the southern fronts of Kushk and Zobeydah.

In Dehloran, the Gendarmerie forces neutralised enemy efforts to infiltrate Iranian held grounds and repelled them, killing a number of them in the Arvand River area.

Also on Monday, Iranian fighter-planes shot down one Iraqi plane and destroyed a missile it had fired before it hit the target, in a dogfight over the Persian Gulf.

Iraq Executes 67 Muslims; Army Desertions Continue

LD151819 Tehran IRNA in English 1805 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan PR. Jan 15, IRNA — Sixty-Seven Muslim militants among them nine young Kurdish girls were executed before the public in al-Sulaymaniyah of Iraq after their trial on charges of "selling the aspirations of the Ba'th Party" last week.

Reports reaching here from Iraq say more and more members of the Armed Forces in Iraq continue to desert the Army. They say many of the personnel of Division 16 of the Iraqi Army have deserted the Army and that those who are arrested after fleeing are brought to a concentration camp in Naft Khaneh region, in the north wherein they are tortured in a manner reminiscent of the medieval practices.

Members of Outlawed Kurdish Party Surrender

LD151829 Tehran IRNA in English 1755 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Bakhtaran, Jan. 15, IRNA — Nine members of the outlawed Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP) and the Komaleh group surrendered to the Iranian Muslim forces in the Uramanat and Paveh regions.

The men said they regretted their former activities and cooperation with the antirevolutionary groups.

Counterrevolutionary Leader Hanged at Evin Prison

LD151112 Tehran IRNA in English 1055 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 15 IRNA — A top military leader of the counterrevolutionary Munafeqin group (MKO) was hanged at Tehran's Evin Prison Sunday morning on charges of barbarous torture of a number of Islamic Revolution Guards Corps which led to their martyrdom on Aug. 15, 1982.

Mehran Asdaq, first military commander of the counterrevolutionary group, was also charged with the torture to death of a devoted shoemaker and a teacher as well as a member of the terrorist MKO group.

Supervisor Named to Endowment Organization

LD151546 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Jan 85

[Excerpt] In accordance with the new law on the organization and powers of the Hajj, Endowment, and Charity organization—which is to be run by the Islamic Guidance Ministry and whose supervisor should, on the approval of the Velayat-e Faqih, also be in charge of the affairs relating to the Velayat-e Faqih—Islamic Guidance Minister Khatami has written to the imam of the ummah proposing Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Haj Aqa Mehdi Emami-Jamarani, the imam's representative to the Endowment organization, as supervisor of the organization. His excellency's approval was sought regarding Emami-Jamarani's taking over Velayat-e Faqih affairs.

In a decree, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran approved Emami-Jamarani taking charge of Velayat-e Faqih affairs while maintaining his post as the imam's representative to the Hajj, Endowment, and Charity organization.

Uranium To Be Used For 'Peaceful Purposes'

GF151215 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 15 Jan 85

[From the "Political Followups" program]

[Excerpts] Brothers, the nuclear energy establishment in the Islamic Republic of Iran has announced that it has succeeded after 3 years of work in discovering a huge field of uranium—estimated at over 5,000 tons—in the Province of Yazd. The general director of the establishment pointed out that as the search process continued we discovered additional minerals and radioactive isotopes in this region. He added that the enriched uranium that was extracted there is regarded as one of the most precious types in the world.

This news item reveals two extremely important facts: The first is the presence of this important and vital substance in addition to other raw materials in our Islamic territory, where this will be used in the service of the whole nation. This will increase the importance of Islamic Iran at all levels. Some decades ago, whenever oil was discovered in a country, this very country became subject to machinations and plots of the infidel arrogance. Moreover, this very country would fall into the grip of power struggles—either between the East and the West or among the arrogant Western countries themselves.

The second fact is that this nuclear substance was extracted solely by Muslim experts from Iran who relied on no foreign power, either Eastern or Western. This advantage was given to

us by the Islamic Revolution—this revolution which cemented the principle of self-reliance and self-sufficiency among the sons of our Muslim people.

Islamic Iran's entry into the field of producing nuclear substances, using these capabilities for peaceful purposes and having all this in sincere Islamic hands, will make these substances tools for progress and territorial development. These substances will also be a tool for ensuring prosperity for the Muslim people everywhere. This will happen after the conventional regime used these substances, which God gave us for the service of mankind, for selfish and lustful reasons to control mankind; it will happen after these substances have become weapons that devastated Hiroshima and Nagasaki; it will happen after they have been used to exploit weaker nations through the arms race for destructive strategic weapons. These weapons reflect how far arrogance has drifted away from the divine concepts and from the message of the prophets, which the West boasts about adhering to at a time when the atheist East boasts about defending the weak and deprived.

Clandestine Supports Esfahan Steel Workers

TA152045 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Unattributed commentary: "The Steel Workers and Employees Are Defending Iran's Economic Independence"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: Struggles by our homeland's workers against the Islamic regime's antilabor measures and policy are continuing on a large scale. These struggles are not confined only within the framework of union and political demands. In fact the battle of our homeland's struggling workers, in the present period, is a battle against the Islamic regime which is taking steps toward betraying the revolution and Iran's economic independence.

An example of such a national battle for the defense of the country's economic independence can be observed in the struggle, protests, and strikes by the workers, employees, and experts of the Esfahan steel complex. In fact, the battle of the workers and employees of this large complex, who played a worthy role in the Bahman Revolution, is in some respects a manifestation of the general struggles by our homeland's people to revive the gains of the revolution and the Constitution's popular principles, as well as to defend Iran's economic independence.

We all know that leaders of the Islamic regime, who seized power by abusing the people's religious beliefs and by hypocritically exploiting the revolution's slogans, are not ready to fulfill any of the basic demands of our homeland's workers. The hard working conditions in steel industrial units are not something of which one is not aware. However, despite all the difficulties stemming from working conditions, the workers and employees of the Esfahan steel mill have so far acted selflessly to continue the work of this huge industrial unit. Despite this, the workers and employees of this giant complex and major industry have no guarantee for their future. It is a fact that many workers and employees, as well as

skillful and talented experts, who have worked in this institution for many years, are leaving the factory without even a backward glance.

The course of developments in this huge organization, and the attitude of leaders of the Islamic regime and its subservient management toward the workers, employees and experts of the steel complex is indicative of a great and treacherous plot that agents of Western monopolies in the Islamic leadership are implementing in order to actually close down this great industrial unit. It is worth noting that the treacherous measures of imperialist agents in the Islamic leadership toward the workers and the problems that afflict them in the Esfahan steel complex are not confined only to indifference toward the legitimate demands of workers, employees and experts of this complex. The agents of Western monopolies and the turbaned Freemasons, have once again, according to a specific plan, played the discordant tune that allegedly continuation of the work of the Esfahan steel mill is uneconomical. At one time Mr Bazargan's minister of Finance

and Economy had said that allegedly the Esfahan steel mill had an annual loss of 3 billion tumans. At that time the experts and specialists of this great institution proved with figures and statistics that such a claim was totally unfounded and an utter lie.

Therefore, the plot and crimes of the Islamic leadership against the Esfahan steel complex, and against the specialist, selfless and talented workers and employees of this great and vital complex, is a continuation of the plots of the enemies of Iran's economic independence and of the foes of the working class in the shah's regime. However, the workers, employees and experts of the steel complex and of all industrial institutions in our homeland have realized the depth of this plot, and are fighting in a united and organized manner against the plot with the aim of foiling it. This crucial battle by workers and employees of the Esfahan steel complex enjoys the support and solidarity of all workers, employees and experts of productive institutions and of all those who desire our homeland's economic independence.